

SMOKE SIGNALS

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N. Hale Blakely,  
W9CBE, SK  
by Richard Regent,  
K9GDF

Norman H. "Hale" Blakely, W9CBE, of McFarland, Wisconsin, passed away on October 13, 2004, at Merriter Hospital from a heart attack, just two weeks short of being 85 years old.

He was the son of Norman and Loran (Garbled) Blakely, born on October 27, 1919. He was a proud graduate from Central High School in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Just a few years later, in 1940, Hale first became a licensed amateur radio operator with the call W8TYE. Hale happily married Betty Mae Heath on April 15, 1954, in Dubuque, Iowa. He is survived by his wife, Betty Mae (Heath) Blakely of McFarland; six children: Betty Jane Blakely of Ogden, Utah; Rose Marie Brown of Ogden, Utah; Linda (Bruce) Arendsee of McFarland; Elaine Blakely of League City, Texas;

Charles Blakely of Madison; and Art (Sandy) Blakely of Platteville; 15 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; sister, Hazel Bos; and many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Hale was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, Clair, Herbert and Harold Blakely; daughter-in-law, Vicki Blakely; and brother-in-law, Henry Bos.

In 1999 Hale had a heart attack and pneumonia, yet recovered his health and strength to continue helping others and continue his activity in hamming. Although Hale was short, he seemed tall because of his pleasant, kind and polite personality.

Between the years 1956 and 1960, W9CBE and I relayed lots of CW traffic together, especially my periodic birthday and anniversary greetings. We both laughed when I would send a radiogram to one of my relatives named Xavier Zepke. Those names never slowed Hale, his CW receiving and sending was flawless. Thirty years later

when I returned to traffick-ing, W9CBE was still there and just as active. He not only remembered my name and welcomed me back, but also reintroduced me to newcomers on the nets. In fact, we still chuckled about the Zepke's.

Extra class W9CBE has many friends through his membership with the American Radio Relay League. As Wisconsin Assistant Section Manager he assisted and would fill in for Section Manager, Don Michalski, W9IXG. As an Official Relay Station relaying messages, he would volunteer as a weekly Net Control Station for Wisconsin Intrastate Nets on CW; the early and late sessions, both daytime and nighttime, of the Ninth Region Nets; as well as a representative to the Central Area Net some days and nights. W9CBE often served as a substitute NCS or liaison when others could not make their appointments, no wonder he achieved the Brass Pounder League monthly award many times. "Hale will be

impossible to replace in terms of the nets and traffic handling in Wisconsin as well as in his kind and gentlemanly approach to everything," says Wisconsin Section Traffic Manager, Dennis Rybicke, K9LGU.

W9CBE was active in many facets of ham radio and was consistently awarded the Public Service Honor Roll. Active in contests, DX and packet radio, W9CBE accomplished the feat of confirming contacts with all 72 Wisconsin counties, was awarded the first Worked All Wisconsin Counties award issued in 1999 by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club, and then received a congratulatory letter from Wisconsin Governor Tommy G. Thompson. W9CBE was a member of Quarter Century Wireless Association and QCWA Wisconsin Chapter 55, attended Wisconsin Nets Association activities and various radio clubs. In Wisconsin, if you heard the word Hale or McFarland on-the-air, you knew it

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Check us out on the web at  
[Http://www.bsos.org](http://www.bsos.org)



# WHAT’S HAPPENING

## Swapfests and Other Social Events — Club Meetings Amateur Radio Exam Schedules

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### Swapfests And Other Social Events

January 8, 2005, Waukesha, WI  
33rd Annual Midwinter Swapfest, sponsored by the West Allis RAC. Waukesha County Expo Center Forum, Waukesha, WI. For information contact: [www.warac.org](http://www.warac.org), WARAC Swapfest, PO Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201, or Phil, W9NAW, (414) 425-3649  
GPS coordinates: Latitude 43.03227, Longitude -88.23948

January 23, 2005, Wheaton Hamfest.  
Pheasant Run Mega Center, 4051 E Main St., St. Charles, IL 60174. Contact [www.wheatonhamfest.org](http://www.wheatonhamfest.org)

March 20, 2005, Jefferson, WI  
Tri-County Amateur Radio Club, Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Activity Center, Hwy 18 West, Jefferson, WI. For information contact: TCARC, 213 Frederick St., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538, [www.cmdline.com/tcarc/](http://www.cmdline.com/tcarc/), [jsatt@ticon.net](mailto:jsatt@ticon.net) or (920) 563-6381 (evenings), (200 563-9551 (fax). <http://www.cmdline.com/tcarc>

April 16, 2005, The NS9RC (formerly known as LAMARSfest) Hamfest, Lake County Fairgrounds, Grayslake, IL. For more information contact: 847-291-6865 or [www.ns9rc.org](http://www.ns9rc.org)

April 17, 2005, Madison Area Repeater Association Swapfest, Stoughton, WI. Mandt Community Center  
400 Mandt Parkway, Stoughton, WI. Inquiries can be directed to: Mr. Paul R. Toussaint, N9VWH,  
MARA President at: [w9hsy@hotmail.com](mailto:w9hsy@hotmail.com)  
Tele:608.245.8890

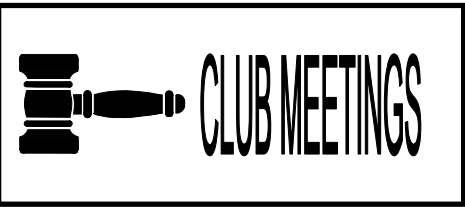
May 07, 2005, Cedarburg, WI. 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Amateur Radio and Computer Swapfest, Ozaukee Radio Club (ORC). Circle B Recreation Center, intersection of State Highway 60 and Ozaukee County Highway I. Info: Gene Szudrowitz, (262) 377-3792 between 6:00 and 8:00 pm or <http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org/>

July 9, 2005, South Milwaukee ARC Swapfest, American Legion Post 434, 9327 South Shepard Ave., Oak Creek, WI. e-mail [ryatex@aol.com](mailto:ryatex@aol.com). Phone (414) 762-3235.

August 15, 2005 Circus City Swapfest, Sauk County Fairgrounds, Baraboo, WI. Steve Schultze, W9UDO, (608) 356-2313 or Bill Klinkner, N9KXX, (608) 643-6908/643-6453  
<http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/hamfest.htm>

Further information about hamfests in the area can be found at [bsss.org](http://bsss.org) or at <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html>

If your organization is sponsoring a Hamfest/Swapfest and would like us to list your event, please send the information to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN at the address below or to [k9en@arrl.net](mailto:k9en@arrl.net)



Due to space limitations we cannot carry the full listing of club meeting locations every issue. See the October BSSS for the latest full listing, or visit our web site [bsss.org](http://bsss.org).

There have been no changes reported to us since the last full listing.

### The Test Point



#### Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Area

December 04, 2004	Fond du Lac, WI
December 04, 2004	Madison, WI
December 04, 2004	Racine, WI
December 04, 2004	St. Paul, MN
December 09, 2004	Apple Valley, MN
December 11, 2004	Blaine, MN
December 11, 2004	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
December 18, 2004	Mauston, WI
December 18, 2004	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
December 18, 2004	Loves Park, IL
December 18, 2004	Cottage Grove, MN
December 21, 2004	Eden Prairie, MN
January 08, 2005	Blaine, MN
January 08, 2005	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
January 13, 2005	Apple Valley, MN
January 15, 2005	Eau Claire, WI
January 15, 2005	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
January 15, 2005	Loves Park, IL
January 15, 2005	Cottage Grove, MN
January 18, 2005	Eden Prairie, MN
January 22, 2005	Sheboygan, WI
January 22, 2005	Bloomington, MN
January 29, 2005	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
January 29, 2005	Tomahawk, WI
February 05, 2005	Appleton, WI
February 05, 2005	Racine, WI
February 05, 2005	St. Paul, MN
February 10, 2005	Apple Valley, MN
February 12, 2005	Blaine, MN
February 12, 2005	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
February 15, 2005	Eden Prairie, MN
February 19, 2005	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
February 19, 2005	Loves Park, IL
February 19, 2005	Cottage Grove, MN
February 26, 2005	Bloomington, MN
February 26, 2005	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
February 26, 2005	Tomahawk, WI
March 05, 2005	Racine, WI
March 05, 2005	St. Paul, MN
March 10, 2005	Apple Valley, MN
March 12, 2005	Blaine, MN
March 12, 2005	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
March 15, 2005	Sheboygan, WI
March 15, 2005	Eden Prairie, MN
March 19, 2005	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
March 19, 2005	Loves Park, IL
March 19, 2005	Cottage Grove, MN
March 26, 2005	Bloomington, MN
March 26, 2005	Tomahawk, WI
April 02, 2005	Racine, WI
April 02, 2005	St. Paul, MN

## Badger State Smoke Signals

### Amateur Radio Education and Information

**CHAIRMAN/PUBLISHER:** Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. Telephone (608) 742-3560. e-mail to: [kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net](mailto:kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net)

#### EDITOR:

**TREASURER:** Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901.

**EDITORIAL BOARD:** Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Don Evenson, K9JYX.

### Subscription Rate

1 year (6 issues—bi-monthly)\$13.95

A subscription form is in this issue. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

### When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month before the issue date. For example, the closing date for the May issue is April 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

### Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

Web page material should be sent to [n9qa@arrl.net](mailto:n9qa@arrl.net) (Dave Knaus, N9QA).

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter.

Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

**Swapfest ADS should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN no later than eight weeks before the**

#### events date.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

#### Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

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### Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.



(Continued from page 2)

April 09, 2005	Blaine, MN
April 09, 2005	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
April 14, 2005	Apple Valley, MN
April 16, 2005	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
April 16, 2005	Loves Park, IL
April 16, 2005	Cottage Grove, MN
April 19, 2005	Eden Prairie, MN
April 23, 2005	Bloomington, MN
April 30, 2005	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
April 30, 2005	Tomahawk, WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	Racine, WI
(except Jan., Jul., & Aug.)	
Monthly, 1st Sat.	St. Paul, MN
Monthly, 2nd Thu.	Apple Valley, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Blaine, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
Monthly, 3rd Tue.	Eden Prairie, MN
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
(September through April)	
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Loves Park, IL
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Cottage Grove, MN
Monthly, 4th Sat.	Bloomington, MN
Monthly, Last Sat.	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
(except Mar., Jun., Aug., & Dec.)	
Monthly, Last Sat.	Tomahawk, WI
(January thru October only)	

GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS: Be sure to check with sponsors before going to an examination session. There may be changes and/or errors in the dates or information given. Some examinations require filing an FCC or NCVEC Form 605 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. Some VE teams permit walkins. Check with the sponsor.

Many hamfests and swapfests offer examinations. A Hamfest entrance fee should not be charged if you come only to attend the examination. To register in advance, you must get a copy of the current FCC Form 605, and fill it out completely and correctly. Get your form from the FCC as instructed below, or from the American Radio Relay League, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Please send an SASE if you request a form from the League. FCC Field Offices seldom stock forms. You can also get a form from

http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html  
or  
ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/Form605.

A form by FAX is available at (202) 418-0177 (request Form 000605). The FCC Forms Distribution Center will accept orders at (800) 418-3676. Form 605 has a main form, plus a Schedule D with two parts (for Vanity and Physician's Certifications). Forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

See QST, W1AW bulletins, or The ARRL Letter regarding any annual exam fee changes. ARRL/VEC no longer gives a free code test or Element 2. Test fees: The ARRL/VEC has set its 2004 test fee at \$12.00. FCC requires applicants to show their original amateur license or CSCE to the VE team. You must also have a good copy of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 605 and most VE teams need a copy for their records. One good CSCE copy is sufficient. You are also be required to have a photo ID, or two other forms of ID. Contact the VE team for details.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only. Proof must be either in the form of a pre-3/21/87 license document or a "Letter of Verification of Technician License Held Prior to 1987" as requested in writing from the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245. For those with internet access, a listing of exam sessions is available from:

http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml

By checking this page, you can find registered VE sessions anywhere in the US and some overseas. You can search by country, state or zip code. The listing is not specific to any particular VEC. It is a master database. Thanks to Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, ARRL/VEC.

Appleton, WI  
Fox Cities ARC (ARRL/VEC) All regular test sessions are held at the American Red Cross Building, 1302 East Wisconsin Ave. in Appleton. Testing starting at 8 a.m. No walk-ins after 9 a.m. For information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (920) 730-0967. Email: w9mdp@arrl.net.

Eau Claire, WI  
Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club. Grace Lutheran Church, 202 W., Grand Ave. Enter off 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue entrance, Eau Claire, WI  
Technician, General and Extra Class exams. Walkins welcome. Examination session coordinator: Jonathan E., Case, (715) 834-1540. www.ecarc.org. w9eau@ecarc.org.

Fond du Lac, WI  
Fond du Lac ARC (ARRL/VEC). Community United Methodist Church, 701 Minnesota Ave., North Fond du Lac. 9:00 a.m. Walk-ins allowed. Contact: Douglas J. Schultz, 920-922-3088, schultz74@charter.net.

Madison, WI  
First Saturday monthly: 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Space Place, 1605 South Park Street, Madison. Please bring a picture ID, your original license, a copy of your license, and the original and a copy of any relevant CSCEs, and a check for \$12.00 made out to the ARRL/VEC. No appointments are necessary to take exams. Exams start promptly at 8 a.m. Questions may be directed to Tim Czerwonka, WO9U, at 608-239-3696 (home phone) or sent to wo9u@arrl.net.

Mauston, WI (ARRL/VEC)  
Sponsored by the Juneau County ARC. 9:30 a.m. (Walk-ins allowed). Mauston City Hall, 303 Mansion St., Community Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Mauston, WI. Contact Edward J. Wagner, (608) 584-4858. ab9fn@arrl.net

Menominee, MI  
Marinette-Menominee Amateur Radio Club. Location: The cafeteria of Bay Area Med Center, US-41 in Menominee. Building located next to KFC just off the Interstate Bridge. All classes given. Advance notice preferred, but not required. Test fee is \$10 with two pieces of identification required. Contact Jeff Rymer, N9PQU at jrymer@ez-net.com or Ed Engleman, KG8CX, at dxer@cybrzn.com. We will monitor

the 147.000 (107.2 pl) repeater in event further directions or info is needed.

Milwaukee, WI  
Badger Examiners (W5YI VEC) September thru April, every third Saturday morning, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Badger Examiners group tests at AES (Amateur Electronic Supply) at 60th and Good Hope, Milwaukee (use the entrance numbered 5730). Exams are given at the old Serman Printing shop, just 300 feet west of the AES store. Novice to Extra are offered, and all test materials are provided. Fee is \$10.00, and bring your original license, or CSCE if needed. Also available are Commercial license exams GROL (General Radiotelephone license), GMDSS, Telegraph, Etc. Fee is \$35.00. For more information call Gary Sharbuno, WI9M at (414) 355-0237.

Milwaukee, WI  
Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club (MRAC VEC) Last Saturday, except in March, June, August, and December. In addition, we test at the West Allis RAC Swapfest in January and at Superfest in April. 9:30 a.m. to noon at Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), 5710 W. Good Hope Road (the door you enter is actually numbered 5730), Milwaukee. For additional information, call (262) 797-MRAC. Bring along your original license, CSCE (if any), and one (1) good quality photocopy of each, plus two forms of identification, such a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$8.00 for the exam fee. Walkins are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card. Print the grade of license you are applying for, your name, address, and telephone number, and send the card to MRAC/VEC, Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, P.O. Box 070695, Milwaukee, WI 53207. Contact: John G. Kraak, 262-797-6722.

Oshkosh, WI (Omro)  
Oshkosh VE Team Amateur Radio exams monthly on the second Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon. Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. Walkins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.65. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (920) 235-0987, e-mail: lemme@vbe.com, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

Racine, WI  
ARRL VEC Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August. Monthly exams are given 9 to 11 a.m. at the Faith United Methodist Church, 1013 Harmony Drive, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted. Talk in on 147.87/.27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Paul B. Smedegaard, N9RGW, 929 Lathrop Ave., Racine, WI 53405-2339. Telephone: (262) 637 4750. or e-mail to [smedegaa@wi.net](mailto:smedegaa@wi.net)

Sheboygan, WI  
Sheboygan County ARC (ARRL/VEC). Exams are held in the Red Cross Building, 2032 Erie Avenue, Sheboygan, WI. The test areas are

handicap accessible with signage posted to direct candidates to the proper area of the building. Walk-ins are accepted, however notification ahead of time of your intention to appear would be appreciated. Contact: Art Pahr K9XJ, 920-876-2370. N8029 Willow Road [k9xj@arrl.net](mailto:k9xj@arrl.net) Plymouth, WI 53073-2929

Shell Lake, WI  
NORWESCO ARES/RACES (ARRL/VEC). Washburn County Law Enforcement Center, lower level meeting room, 421 Hwy 63, Shell Lake. Walk-ins allowed. This is for all classes of license. Persons wishing to upgrade an existing license should bring a photocopy of it to submit. Also need a photo ID to prove who you are. The fee is \$10.00. Contact: Richard J. Eckenrode, 715-466-4109. Email: cen34109@centurytel.net. Web Site: fp1.centurytel.net/norwesco/.

Tomahawk, WI  
Tomahawk ARRL VE Team (ARRL/VEC). Last Saturday of every month, January thru October. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testing starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633, dcollins@newnorth.net.

St. Paul, MN  
Saint Paul Radio Club (SPRC) First Saturday of the month, 8:30 a.m. Test Site: St. Paul Technical College, 235 Marshall Ave., St Paul, MN. Ed Van Cleave, W0VC, (612) 636-0108. www.qsl.net/sprc/index.html.

Rockford, IL  
Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC) Third Saturday of every month. 9:00 a.m. to noon. No new applicants after 11:00 a.m. Walkins welcome. Held at St. Anthony Hospital, 5660 E State St., Rockford, IL. Rusty Cordell, WB9QYV, 1823 Hulin St., Rockford, IL 61102-2619. (815) 968-0080. e-mail: WB9QYV@aol.com.

One beautiful December evening Huan Cho and his girlfriend Jung Lee were sitting beside the ocean in Southern China. It was a romantic full moon, when Huan Cho said "Hey baby, let's play Weeweechu."

"Oh no, not now, let's look at the moon" said Jung Lee.

"Oh, c'mon baby, let's you and I play weeweechu. I love you and it's the perfect time," Huan Cho begged.

"But I rather just hold your hand and watch the moon." Then Jung Lee looked at Huan Cho's handsome face and strong body and her resistance melted, "OK, we'll play Weeweechu."

Huan Cho grabbed his guitar and they both sang....

"Weeweechu a Merry Christmas,  
Weeweechu a Merry Christmas,  
Weeweechu a Merry Christmas,  
and a Happy New Year!"

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

# Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Dean R. Herriges, KB9ROB, Secretary  
W370 S9590 Highway 67 • Eagle, WI 53119

## WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	LOCAL	Manager
BWN	YES	3985	1200	0600	W9IXG
BEN	YES	3985	1800	1200	KE9VU
WSBN	YES	3985	2315	1715	K9FHI
WNN	YES	3723	0000	1800	KB9ROB
WSSN	YES	3645	0030	1830	WA9ZTY
WIN/E	YES	3662	0100	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	YES	3662	0400	2200	W9UW
RCRA	NO	01/61	0130	1930	KA9OMC
(Mondays CDT— Menomonie Area)					
Green Bay Area	NO	72/12	0345	2145	WB9NRK
ARES	NO	4.65/5.25	0300	2100	
(South East/South Central Wisconsin)					
ARES/RACES (WRACES)	NO	3996	0000	1800	KB9ENO
(Sundays)					

### WISCONSIN Section STM Report September 2004

FAQ #33 How will the SET nets function? For the Simulated Emergency Test on October 16, there will be two HF nets called into session, and they will operate simultaneously. The Wisconsin ARES/RACES Net will meet on 3.996 MHz for tactical test messages, inter-county organizational messages, inquiries by ECs to other ECs, and more. The Badger Emergency Net will be established on 3.985 MHz. to pass test routine, test welfare, test priority, and test emergency messages within the state and out-of-state.

On each net, the Net Control Station will be the boss. He or she will direct stations how to check in,

how to list traffic, how to pass messages, and might even ask questions of those checked in concerning their status during the test. Message handling will be easier for those who do it regularly, but the SET can be a good time for training, too. If operators have a few messages ready to go at the start of the exercise, it will be a good test of just how much traffic we can handle efficiently in this way.

Because the SET extends over several hours, it will make sense for the NCS duties to be shared. At some point, control of a net may simply be "handed over" to another station. Be prepared.

What other elements might be tested? The NCS may direct stations to go to a specific frequency farther up or down the band. Maybe they will be asked if they can establish a Packet link, instructed to try an emergency-powered repeater, told to shift

to upper sideband -- or (Saints preserve us!) -- CW. If the receiving station remembers to call first, after checking for a clear frequency, contact should be made okay. Perhaps a third station will be told to relay between the other two - as if conditions did not permit their direct contact.

While local nets may be passing messages that list emergency power capabilities, mobile units available, or test damage reports, ECs might choose to send such inquiries or summaries via HF, too. Appointed liaisons from local ARES/RACES nets to the HF nets will help.

The NTS supports the ARES. The two organizations are intended to work together. As we simulate an emergency, let's try to be realistic as well as thankful that it's only a simulation. If you're reading this after the SET, how did we do? -- 73 K9LGU/STM

### Wisconsin Section STM Report October 2004

I join in mourning W9CBE, a true gentleman, now a Silent Key. His fist will be truly missed, as will his genuine concern for everyone on the nets. He was active in every aspect of phone, CW, and digital traffic handling, and did it all exceptionally well.

Safe at Any Speed

FAQ #34: I hear people say, "See you on the CW nets." How can they "see" anyone there? Excellent question. No, it's not slowscan TV. Operators get to know each other well on the CW nets -so much so that they can imagine the other operators vividly. When they share in one of the basic communication modes that's

been historically significant to Ham radio, they form a special bond. What they "see" is good operating and lots of enjoyment. True, CW has been called, "the original digital" mode. It's also true that, although they may have mastered the code to earn a license, many Hams don't keep up their skills in communicating by Morse code. That doesn't mean CW isn't fun; quite the contrary.

Starting with the Novice Net on 3723 KHz. at 6 p.m., or the Slow Speed Net on 3645 KHz. at 6:30, every day operators check their CW fists just to be sure they're still operational. Speeds from 5 to 8 w.p.m. aren't beyond reach, and every NCS has been instructed to slow down to the speed of the station checking in. At 7:00 p.m. and again at 10:00, WIN meets to handle traffic at slightly higher speeds.

Each net is very efficient. Abbreviations speed things up. There's usually no roundtable discussion to keep the net open - just checking in, handling traffic, and closing the net. Typically, our CW nets last around ten minutes, leaving plenty of time for other activities and still serving a purpose of maintaining an important part of the National Traffic System.

Checking in to a CW net is easy. Complete instructions can be found on the Wisconsin page of the ARRL website, but just by listening it's easy to "see" what's going on. Join the fun. It's another great facet of Ham radio, and, when all else fails, CW will probably work. It's enjoyable to work and visit on phone nets, and WINLINK 2000 may serve an important purpose in the NTS, but don't throw away your CW key. CU on CW. 73 - K9LGU

### WISCONSIN SECTION MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY SEPTEMBER 2004

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	1583	2026	3074	30	W9IXG
BEN	465	60	1131	29	KE9VU
WSBN	752	68	1013	30	K9FHI
WNN	94	8	224	21	KB9ROB
WSSN	134	19	244	22	WA9ZTY
WIN/E	199	31	264	29	WB9ICH
WIN/L	173	59	344	30	W9UW
WRACES 107	0	186	4	KB9ENO	
totals	3507	2271	6480	195	
Midwest Classic Radio Net QNI 150, info 54/52, QTR 390, 4 Sessions - AM only					

### MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY OCTOBER 2004

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	1575	1993	2944	31	W9IXG
BEN	487	67	914	30	KE9VU
WSBN	765	80	1030	31	K9FHI
WNN	133	23	279	21	KB9ROB
WSSN	168	21	300	25	WA9ZTY
WIN/E	201	51	296	31	WB9ICH
WIN/L	178	71	381	31	W9UW
WRACES	0	0	0	0	N6NKO
totals	3507	2306	6144	200	
MIDWEST CLASSIC RADIO NET - QNI 195 INFO EXCHNG 73/50 QTR 528 5 SNNS AM ONLY					

### STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY SEPTEMBER 2004

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
K9JPS	0	571	32	554	1157 - BPL
KA9EKG	3	265	260	1	529 - BPL
W9IHW	0	193	32	182	407 - BPL*
N9VE	0	161	47	137	345 - BPL*
W9CBE	0	77	88	3	168
K9LGU	0	53	32	0	85
WA9ZTY	0	27	51	5	83
AG9G	0	14	59	0	73
W9BHL	1	27	42	0	70
K9FHI	0	31	35	0	66
W9UW	0	34	20	0	54
KE9VU	0	22	23	0	45
W9KKM	0	5	33	5	43
W9SWL	0	5	34	2	41
N9NNN	0	0	31	0	31
W9RCW	0	0	30	0	30
AA9BB	1	0	27	0	28
K9GU	0	0	25	0	25
KA9BHK	0	2	21	0	23
WB9ICH	0	16	2	0	18
KB9ROB	0	15	2	0	17
KN9P	0	8	8	0	16
W9RSX	0	1	12	1	14
KG9B	0	0	14	0	14
K9UTQ	0	3	5	3	11
KA9RZL	0	2	2	1	5
W9PVD	0	1	1	1	3

### STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY OCTOBER 2004

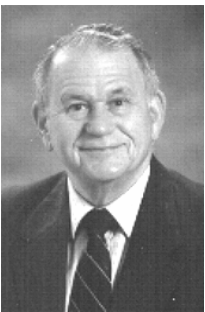
STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
K9JPS	0	545	34	538	1117- BPL
W9IHW	0	201	31	200	432 - BPL*
N9VE	0	120	43	103	266 - BPL*
K9LGU	6	94	68	0	168
KA9EKG	8	58	56	1	123
WA9ZTY	0	34	62	6	102
W9SWL	0	27	48	11	86
AG9G	0	11	59	0	70

(Continued on page 11)

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# The Computer Corner

By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR • 105 Martin Drive  
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## THE COMPUTER CORNER

**No. 120. Win 98 versus XP**  
- by Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR  
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As mentioned in the last issue, I am a believer in alternatives. The latest and greatest from Microsoft is, of course, Windows XP. Should you upgrade to it? Alternatively, if you bought a machine with it, should you down-grade to Windows 98? That last statement may shock some, but it is an attractive alternative for some individuals. So, let me discuss it here, and you can make up your own mind.

First, let us define terms. When discussing Win98 here, I will be talking about Windows 98 Second Edition. Any previous edition should not be used. When discussing Win XP, I will be talking strictly about Windows XP Professional Edition. The word is out that the Home Edition of XP is inferior, and has quite a bit of the functionality crippled or missing. Having defined terms, now it is important to ask what attributes are critical when considering an OS (operating system)?

First and foremost is stability. How likely is the OS to crash? There is nothing worse than an unstable platform that crashes, often taking some of your valuable files and data with it. For this characteristic, Win XP is the winner, right out of the box. Word has it that it is much more stable – much less likely to present you with the “Blue Screen of Death” than Win 98. On the other hand, those of us who use Norton Systemworks to keep Win 98 clean of registry errors and other things that go bump in the night find that Win 98 is quite stable. I have three desktops and a laptop in my office that run Win 98 (one is dual-boot with Linux on it too), and I have relatively few problems, under the watchful eye of Systemworks. But, truthfully, one should not have to buy third party software to keep and OS trouble free. So, Win XP wins the stability comparison hands down.

Second are hardware drivers. Does the OS come out of the box with drivers for all the gadgets out there you are likely to use with your computer? Does it recognize the sound card, PCI bus, modem, network and other hard-

ware in your computer? Well, of course XP must win this because it is a much newer OS than Win 98. On the other hand, this might be considered a non-issue. With Internet access, one can find drivers for almost anything in a fairly short time. Driversguide.com is a great place to look – they have thousands of drivers on hand, and links to many more, free for the downloading. Even XP may not have a driver for a card or other hardware device that was manufactured after the OS was released. So, this really is a non-issue. Oh, there will be an occasional piece of hardware that will not work with Win 98, but almost all devices made today will work just fine. I have only seen one such device, a modem, for which there were no drivers available for Win 98. Most manufacturers got wise, quickly, to the fact that many people were not upgrading to XP and so made their devices compatible with both Win 98 and XP. That persists until today.

Third, is support. By support, I mean security fixes and other upgrades of parts of the OS to keep it current (we all know that real support from Microsoft, via phone or email, does not exist). The answer is a dead tie. Microsoft has recently announced that it will continue support of Win 98 for at least several more years (after a hue and cry from thousands of users when Microsoft tried to cut off support so that people would buy XP). Did you know there is a free CD from Microsoft that will apply security fixes to either OS (it detects which one you are using)? It installs all security fixes through February 2004. Yep, go to this site: <http://www.microsoft.com/security/protect/cd/order.asp>, to sign up. They will mail you the CD at no charge. I now routinely use this CD when preparing computers for ARES/RACES units around the state. It works well, and saves much time downloading files. So, support is there for both Win 98 and XP, so that item is a tie.

Next are Microsoft Activation restrictions. If you buy and install XP in your machine, you must contact Microsoft to activate it within 30 days or it will cease to work! If you buy a PC with XP installed, it XP is locked to that BIOS, which means you cannot transport it to another machine. Well, OK, that is reasonable. But having to contact Microsoft to activate a product you paid hard cash for? Many of us find this to be so unpalatable that we shy away from the OS. That is one reason why

many large corporations are moving to Linux (over 50%, by 2007). Linux, by the way, is a fine OS, looks and works much like Windows, is even more stable than Windows, and is free! Do a Google search on Fedora, the name of the new home edition of Red Hat Linux.

There is one more issue, availability. Of course, one can purchase XP or a machine with XP on it. Not so easy with Win 98. Insofar as I am aware, Microsoft no longer sells Win 98, and I have not seen it on shelves in the store. So, the only way to get it is to make a copy of a friend’s CD. That, of course, is theoretically illegal, though I doubt that any court would find against an individual who does this, seeing as how it is no longer possible to buy a copy from the company. Still, many folks might not want to engage in an activity in the “gray area”

of legality. On the other hand, a lawyer friend said he didn’t think Microsoft would go after a person making a single copy. So there you have it. Win 98 is not available unless you pirate a copy from someone who has it.

I think I have covered all the issues, and here is a summary of the results. STABILITY: a tie but only if you use Norton Systemworks to keep Win 98 as stable as XP. Out of the box, XP is much better. HARDWARE DRIVERS: not really an issue, so long as you have Internet access. SUPPORT: pretty much equal, at least for a couple of years more. MICROSOFT ACTIVATION RESTRICTIONS: a real negative for XP and not an issue with Win 98. AVAILABILITY: a negative for Win 98 and a non-issue for XP. There it is, folks, now you decide. Happy computing!

## WISCONSIN SECTION MANAGER REPORT

### SEPTEMBER 2004

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG, SEC: KB9ENO, STM: K9LGU, ACC: K9XB, SGL: W9DGI, OOC: N9VE, PIC: KB9NUM. TC: K9GDF, BM: WB9NRK ASM: K9UTQ, W9RCW, W9CBE, W9DGI, N9VE.

\*\* With regret, I inform you of the passing of Wesley Christensen, K9JZI, 91. Wesley was an avid CW operator. Also, Mike Anuta, W8HKY, 103, passed away. Mike was an active amateur in the M&M ARC until his recent stroke. Bob Trainor, 41, N9RSH, became a Silent Key. Also, Dave Schaefer, 49, N9DMS, passed away. Dave was the former president of Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club. Dick Gall, WB9DST, 64, became a Silent Key.

\*\* A reminder to inform me if you hear of any BPL activity in your area. Some BPL sites are popping up around the country and we want to keep our eyes out for anything in Wisconsin.

\*\* Our thanks to Carl, KA9WYK, and Mancorad for investing in the ARRL Library Set, <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/libbookset.html> plus 2 Handbooks and 32 Now You're Talking license manuals! These materials will provide a wealth of knowledge to the members of the club as well as the community. I recommend other clubs consider purchasing the Library Set at the large discounted price.

\*\* The Wisconsin Valley Radio Association has a new CW net which meets on Wednesday evenings at 8:00 p.m. on the WVRA's 444.100 repeater. Practice goes for about 30-45 minutes under the leadership of WVRA's Public Education Coordinator Jerry Graebel, W9GLG.

\*\* Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club member Dan - KB9YDI has been conducting on the air code classes and practice on our repeater at 145.39- MHz (PL 127.3) for some time now. These classes and/or practice sessions are open to anyone and you can participate in them on the air if you have a Tech or higher license. These sessions take place on Monday and Wednesdays starting at 7:00 PM. The first half hour is for beginners and teaches all characters and basics needed for CW on the air. At approximately 7:30 PM the class begins practice in the format of a QSO similar to that of an exam session. CW OTA ends around 8 PM.

\*\* A reminder to read the proposed ARRL Petition to the FCC to Regulate Subbands by Bandwidth. This was the subject of Dave Summers' editorial in the September QST. The full article can be read at this site: <http://www.arrl.org/announce/bandwidth.html/html> The ARRL is requesting comments before sub-

mitting the proposal to the FCC. Send your comments to [bandwidth@arrl.org](mailto:bandwidth@arrl.org). ARRL staff will do its best to answer your questions. Comments will be forwarded to your ARRL Central Division Director, Dick Isely, W9GIG. Members are also welcome, as always, to comment directly to Dick Isely at [w9gig@arrl.org](mailto:w9gig@arrl.org).

\*\* Interested in knowing who became an Amateur in your area? I now have access to a monthly listing of new Amateurs in Wisconsin. If you wish to invite them to your club or ARES/RACES meetings, let me know and I will be glad to send you an email listing every month. From this list, you can get their local phone number using any of the popular web phone books. And, this is a good time to remind you that if you see a new face(s) at your meetings to be sure to go out of your way to make them feel welcome!! You may only have one chance to get them to join or attend your meetings regularly!

\*\* Congratulations to the West Allis Radio Amateur Club members on their 50th anniversary celebration on September 26!

\*\* Did you know that, as an ARRL member or affiliated organization, you can have the ARRL logos on your material? ARRL members and affiliated clubs may use the ARRL diamond logo on their own personal QSL cards, stationery, club signs, business cards and web pages. ARRL Life Members may use the Life Member logo on their own personal QSL cards, stationery, business cards and web pages. Special Service Clubs may use the Special Service Club logo on their stationery, club signs and web pages. ARES members may use the ARES logo on their on their own personal QSL cards, stationery, business cards and web pages. Go to <http://www.arrl.org/logos/> for details!

\*\* From our STM, Denny, K9LGU: FAQ #33 How will the SET nets function? The Wisconsin ARES/RACES Net will meet on 3.996 MHz for tactical test messages, inter-county organizational messages, inquiries by ECs to other ECs, and more. The Badger Emergency Net will be established on 3.985 MHz. to pass test routine, test welfare, test priority, and test emergency messages within the state and out-of-state. On each net, the Net Control Station will be the boss. He or she will direct stations how to check in, how to list traffic, how to pass messages, and might even ask questions of those checked in concerning their status during the test. Message handling will be easier for those who do it regularly, but the SET can be a good

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## Mancorad Radio Club

Theresa Hartlaub, KB9KXE  
Secretary

P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI  
54221-0204



2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61

### October 2004 Meeting Minutes

President Fred (W6BSF) called the meeting to order at 7:35pm, Oct. 13, 2004. The Sept. minutes were accepted by motion from Ken (K9HAG) and second from John (NZ9Z). Fred gave the treasurer's report in the absence of Dick (N9QFY). Report accepted with motion and second by Dan (N9NCU) and Dan (N9FVZ)

Steve (N9PBL) handed out t-shirts for all members who volunteered time to help with the Leukemia Bike-a-thon this summer. He expressed his gratitude for all the hours given. This is one of the annual events we run.

Dan(N9NCU) had all the Now You Are Talking Books to be handed out to the area school libraries. He gave these out to all members who had volunteered to deliver them to the various schools. For members not present, he will be contacting them to arrange picking up the books. The other books are coming and presentations will be made at a later date to the public libraries. An acknowledgement card was inserted with each book, identifying our club and giving information about the club. Dan thanks all who have helped with this project.

Oct. 16th there will be a Ares/Races drill. Members will receive an automated phone message. They will need to report in. This goes from 10:00-1:00 with lunch included.

Travis (KB9YRC) has been appointed to a new position in the club. He will be the new Skywarn Coordinator/Trainer. Travis has taken over the weather net many times and has done a wonderful job as coordinator.

The club's Christmas party will be held Jan 7th at Cedar Ridge restaurant. Cocktails from 6-7. Meal of chicken and ribs and all the trimmings will follow. A gift exchange of 6.00 is an option. Cost is 10.00 in advance and 11.00 at the door. The club will pick up the extra 1.70 for each member. We will be charged for at least 40 people so a good turn out is hoped for. We will also have traveling door prizes as in the past years. This always livens up the party. Ham of the Year will also be handed out. Reservations and money must be in to Dick by 12/31/04.

Fred will be sending out the yearly re-

newal forms for all members. Along with that will be a sheet that has all the information about the Christmas party. Remember-all monies need to be in to Dick by 12/31/04. A new roster will be coming in early January.

Carl (KA9WYK) has set up an e-mail web site. This is located at Mancorad@Yahooogroup.com. If interested in participating in the group, please contact Carl and he can set you up. John (NZ9Z) has an antenna to sell. It is one that Glenn (AA9MT) has no use for. It is 40' long, an Alpha Delta. Asking price is 80.00. For more info contact John.

John (NZ9Z) has offered to run Ares/Races training sessions. They would be 8 weeks long. More on this in 2005.

Now to the business of the yearly elections. The results are as follows: President-Fred (W6BSF), Vice-President-Carl (KA9WYK), Treasurer-Dick (N9QFY) and Secretary-Dan (N9NCU). One year directors are: Gene (WB9DQD), Dan (N9FVZ) and John (NZ9Z). Congratulations to all. Lets everyone give them our support throughout the coming year. Remember-this club is only as great as all of its members.

We had a visitor-Bob M. who is interested in finding out about ham radio and our club. We welcomed him and invited him to join us when ever he can.

The attendance drawing was held. N9JZZ-Mark was not in attendance. Pot goes to \$9.00.

The meeting was ended at 8:51. Lunch was served. The November meeting will be held at 7:30 on Nov. 10th. Board meeting at 6:45.

Respectively submitted  
Theresa (KB9KXE), Secretary

Meeting Attendance:  
KB9KXE Theresa KB9YRC Travis  
KB9KXF Gene NZ9Z John  
W9NPX Roger KB9GOY Mary  
K9HAG Ken N9NCU Dan  
N9PBL Steve KA9WYK Carl  
N9FVZ Dan WB9DQD Gene  
KB9KEM Dick K9DUX Bill  
KB9EME Vern W6BSF Fred

Emergency Communications kit with hardware purchased from Tower Electronics at the Waverly Beach Hamfest last weekend, plus a donated ¼" drive socket set and tool box from W6BSF.

December 4, 2004, is Skywarn Recognition day, operating on HF and VHF from 0000Z to 2400Z; see website [www.hamradio.noaa.gov](http://www.hamradio.noaa.gov) for details.

Dan (N9NCU) reported on the library

## Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

Jerry Graebel - W9GLG  
P.O. Box 363 • Wausau, WI

No new received from the WWVRA for this issue. We look forward to hearing from the club in the next issue.

book project status: school library books are almost all delivered now, and the ARRL Library Book set has been received; two remaining ARRL Handbooks are still being awaited. Thank you notes and acknowledgements of donations to the school libraries have been received and were read at the meeting.

All club members should have received a letter for annual membership renewal and signup for the Christmas party to be held on January 7, 2005. Return your membership renewal and party plans to the club via the PO Box indicated in the letter.

Fred read an ARRL email received regarding "Hams Remember Children" which is soliciting gifts and/or cash donations for children affected by this season's hurricanes in the southeast. John (NZ9Z) moved that a \$50.00 club donation be made to this effort, and it was seconded by Mary (KB9GOY). If individuals wish to do further, send a gift or donation to White Doves c/o United Way of Martin County, 50 Kindred St., Suite 207, Stuart FL, 34994; include a QSL card.

Upcoming meeting presentations were announced; Carl (KA9WYK) will do a Badger Weather Net presentation in December, 2004, and Travis (KB9YRC) will do Skywarn presentations and training in March, April and May, 2005. Thanks to both Carl and Travis for volunteering to provide this!

John (NZ9Z) is soliciting volunteers to do bell ringing for the Salvation Army this holiday season; several volunteered at the meeting, and others interested please contact John.

Fred discussed several ARES/RACES items of interest to the club members. November 17, 2004, is the next quarterly meeting and will include preparation for the December 17, 2004, Point Beach Nuclear emergency exercise; meeting is at 7:00pm at the clubshack. John (NZ9Z) has volunteered to present a class on the ARRL EmComm I training module which is recommended for all ARES/RACES members; more to be announced, and the class will start mid-January, 2005. Mancorad will pick up ½ of the ARRL textbook cost (\$12.95), and the student paid course fee (\$45.00) is refundable through the ARRL if the course is

passed. Thanks, John; that's a big donation of your time to the club and the ARES/RACES members!

Fred discussed an expression of interest received from Lakeshore Technical College (fire fighters and emergency techs) in becoming ham radio operators and ARES/RACES members; an initial exploratory meeting will be held tomorrow, November 11, 2004, at LTC. Hopefully we can combine with the Sheboygan ARC to support this request.

The meeting concluded by viewing an ARRL videotape on digital communications.

The attendance drawing was won by Chris (KB9VLS) who was present; prize was \$9.00, and now resets back to \$5.00 for next month.

The meeting was closed at 8:25pm, and lunch was served (thanks Theresa!).

Respectfully submitted,  
Dan (N9NCU), Secretary

### Meeting Attendance:

Dan (N9NCU)	Dick (N9QFY)
John (NZ9Z)	Chris (KB9VLS)
Travis (KB9YRC)	Gene (KB9KXF)
Mary (KB9GOY)	Theresa (KB9KXE)
Ken (K9HAG)	Bill (K9DUX)
Bob (KB9INK)	Carl (KA9WYK)
Fred (W6BSF)	Mike (WA9VVS)
Bob (visitor and future ham)	

### 2005 Mancorad Event Sponsor:

Brat Fry Fundraisers Dan (N9FVZ) and Theresa (KB9KXE)

Family Picnic and Christmas Party--Dan (N9FVZ), Gene (WB9DQD) and Dan (N9NCU)

Website Activities -- Carl (KA9WYK)  
Meeting Programs -- Carl (KA9WYK)  
Ham of the Year Committee -- Mancorad Board

Public Relations -- John (NZ9Z)  
Field Day -- John (NZ9Z), Travis (KB9YRC) and Dennis (W9DWN)

Cobia -- Fred (W6BSF)  
Lighthouse -- Dennis (W9DWN)

Thanks to all of these volunteers!

Thread copied recently on a broadcast engineering list server:

Is it true that Alexander Graham Kowalski was the world's first telephone Pole?  
I'll Czech on that.  
Aren't you Russian to judgment?  
I think the Irish above would like to see this thread Finnish.  
If the thread doesn't end, Italian all your mommies...  
India vent he wasn't, will be Austria-cized for telling this joke?  
Irish this thread would end.  
Gentlemen, please. None of this is German to

radio.  
Kenya take it to another list?  
Keep it up and someone will kick Djibouti.  
No. I want Samoa. Hee hee.  
Now, now, folks...that's Norway to talk....  
What? Are you trying to say the next poster to this thread will be in Deutsch?  
One more like that and you'll be hearing Wales of anguish ....  
Only if you Sweden the pot with a few Finns...  
When I saw this, IRAN away. :)  
"OK, I'm gonna Canada thread"?  
Oman...it's getting to Willie!  
What a Turkey of a thread.  
Let's Greece it right to Sidney's door.



The Hamfest after the Hamfest.



Ron, K5HZ shows off his Heath Kit line. This is one of five operating positions in his basement.



Carroll Cullum, K0WRX, Rockford, IL displays some of his homebrew rigs on wooden chassis as well as goodies for sale or swap.



William Ross, W9WR, Kenilworth, IL shows off his Hallicrafters Sky Buddy with the picture of a young boy with earphones on the dial. The ad with his call he recently obtained from a collector on the internet. Bill was also the longest continuously licensed ham there, having been licensed for over 50 years.



(left) Ron is an avid builder and has just completed this linear amplifier with solid state tuning and other refinements. "I don't watch TV." Said Ron, "I live in the basement, building rigs and making homebrew refreshments." Ron is now in the process of building an antenna tuner for when he wants to crank up the power at one of his five operating positions.

The Hamfest after the Hamfest.

What started out as an informal get together at a Ham's home has turned into an annual event. Five or six years ago after a local hamfest, Ron Rausch, K5HZ, Dousman, WI invited several hams who also had an interest in

old equipment and communicating via CW and AM to his home to show off some of his 'boat anchors'.

This has turned into an annual event now attended by 20 plus hams and lovers of old equipment and home brew. They come from as far away as Champaigne, IL.

They show up with their latest home built projects, some finished and some still in progress. They share ideas and talk about their latest contacts on CW and AM.

Ron and his wife Julie provide a cook out as well as ample supplies of Ron's homebrew beers and wines which is another one of his hobbies. All of this for a nominal fee to cover the cost of food.

They can be found on the air at 7:45 Saturday mornings on the Midwest Classic Radio Net on 3885mh - AM that is.

Editors notes:  
Another year of BSSS is now behind us, and we are looking forward to next year. We hope to finish scanning in all the old back issues of BSSS and other publications and will have the final cd collection available shortly. If you or your club are interested in getting a set, let me know. I hope to see you at the hamfests and other activities during the upcoming year.  
We wish you and your families a safe and enjoyable holiday season and a great amateur radio year next year.  
73 ken k9en

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2004 GROUND HOG PARTY



2004 Ground Hog party held in Watertown, WI on October 9th. Pictured above is Tom Wensch, N9HR, this years winner of the trophy awarded to the high bidder each year. The trophy is reputed to have brought great fame and fortune to the it’s many winners during the over 50 years since it was first awarded. Pictured with tom is GHONA, the official mascot of the **Ground Hogs of North America** started by the Erv Buchar, W9QHR (sk) in 1947. He ran the parties until 1968. In 1976 Theron, W9LUB and his wife, Bettie, K9GJC activated the party and ran it until 1988 when Theron became a silent Key. In 2002 Bettie took it upon herself, with the help of her son, Tim, KB9SLJ, to reactivate the Ground Hog Party. Next year’s party will October 8th, 2005.

Pictured below are some of the past winners of the trophy who were present at this year’s annual get-together. (Tim Block, N9EAJ, Dennis Berg, WB9MSM, Dorothy Eastway, K9BBL, and Ken Ebnet, K9EN). (photos— k9en)



33rd ANNUAL MIDWINTER  
**SWAPFEST**



Ham Radio, Computer, Electronics  
**SATURDAY - JANUARY 8, 2005**  
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
**WAUKESHA COUNTY EXPO CENTER FORUM**  
**WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN**

ADMISSION: \$5.00 Advance - \$5.00 at Door  
RESERVED TABLES: \$15.00 per 8 foot table - \$15.00 at Door (if available)  
ELECTRICAL OUTLET: \$17.00 (advance only)  
AMATEUR EXAMS: (Location - AMF Waukesha Lanes, across from Expo)  
Bring your original license with photocopy, CSCes  
with 2 photocopies and two IDs (one must be photo ID)

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Sponsors of: Midwinter Swapfest - WI QSO Party - WARAC Memorial Scholarships - Worked All WI Counties Award  
For more information please call Phil, W9NAW, 414.425.3649 or visit [www.warac.org](http://www.warac.org)

**Advance Registration Form**

RESERVATION DEADLINE: Dec. 31, 2004  
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Table Reservations \$15.00 for each 8 feet  
*(table reservation does not include admission)*

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Electrical Outlet \$17.00 (Advance only)

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$17.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Mail with #10 business size S.A.S.E. to:  
**WARAC SWAPFEST**  
**P. O. BOX 1072**  
**MILWAUKEE, WI 53201**

**Location of  
Waukesha County  
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**Send me my BSSS by both** ☐      **Please do NOT send cash.**



## WISCONSIN SECTION MANAGER REPORT

*(Continued from page 5)*

time for training, too. The NCS may ask for a substitute or direct stations to go to a specific frequency farther up or down the band. Maybe they will be asked if they can establish a Packet link, instructed to try an emergency-powered repeater, told to shift to upper sideband -- or (Saints preserve us!) -- CW. Appointed liaisons

### OCTOBER 2004

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG, SEC: KB9ENO, STM: K9LGU, ACC: K9XB, SGL: W9DGI, OOC: N9VE, PIC: KB9NUM. TC: K9GDF, BM: WB9NRK ASM: K9UTQ, W9RCW, W9CBE, W9DGI, N9VE.

\*\* With regret, I inform you of the passing of Wesley Christensen, K9JZI, 91. Wesley was an avid CW operator. Also, Mike Anuta, W8HKY, 103, passed away. Mike was an active amateur in the M&M ARC until his recent stroke. Bob Trainor, 41, N9RSH, became a Silent Key. Also, Dave Schaefer, 49, N9DMS, passed away. Dave was the former president of Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club. Dick Gall, WB9DST, 64, became a Silent Key.

\*\* A reminder to inform me if you hear of any BPL activity in your area. Some BPL sites are popping up around the country and we want to keep our eyes out for anything in Wisconsin.

\*\* Our thanks to Carl, KA9WYK, and Mancorad for investing in the ARRL Library Set, <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/libookset.html> plus 2 Handbooks and 32 Now You're Talking license manuals! These materials will provide a wealth of knowledge to the members of the club as well as the community. I recommend other clubs consider purchasing the Library Set at the large discounted price.

\*\* The Wisconsin Valley Radio Association has a new CW net which meets on Wednesday evenings at 8:00 p.m. on the WVRA's 444.100 repeater. Practice goes for about 30-45 minutes under the leadership of WVRA's Public Education Coordinator Jerry Graebel, W9GLG.

\*\* Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club member Dan - KB9YDI has been conducting on the air code classes and practice on our repeater at 145.39- MHz (PL 127.3) for some time now. These classes and/or practice sessions are open to anyone and you can participate in them on the air if you have a Tech or higher license. These sessions take place on Monday and Wednesdays starting at 7:00 PM. The first half hour is for beginners and teaches all characters and basics needed for CW on the air. At approximately 7:30 PM the class begins practice in the format of a QSO similar to that of an exam session. CW OTA ends around 8 PM.

\*\* A reminder to read the proposed ARRL Petition to the FCC to Regulate Subbands by Bandwidth. This was the subject of Dave Sumners' editorial in the September QST. The full article can be read at this site: <http://www.arrl.org/announce/bandwidth.html/html> The ARRL is requesting comments before submitting the proposal to the FCC. Send your comments to [bandwidth@arrl.org](mailto:bandwidth@arrl.org). ARRL staff will do its best to answer your questions. Comments will be forwarded to your ARRL Central Division Director, Dick Isely, W9GIG. Members are also welcome, as always, to comment directly to Dick Isely at [w9gig@arrl.org](mailto:w9gig@arrl.org).

\*\* Interested in knowing who became an

from local ARES/RACES nets to the HF nets will help. The NTS supports the ARES.

\*\* Our deep appreciation to the Amateurs who went south to assist in disaster relief efforts from the recent hurricanes. 73,

Don, W9IXG [w9ixg@arrl.org](mailto:w9ixg@arrl.org) (608)274-1886  
ARRL Wisconsin Section, Section Manager  
Donald E. Michalski, W9IXG, [w9ixg@arrl.org](mailto:w9ixg@arrl.org)

Amateur in your area? I now have access to a monthly listing of new Amateurs in Wisconsin. If you wish to invite them to your club or ARES/RACES meetings, let me know and I will be glad to send you an email listing every month. From this list, you can get their local phone number using any of the popular web phone books. And, this is a good time to remind you that if you see a new face(s) at your meetings to be sure to go out of your way to make them feel welcome!! You may only have one chance to get them to join or attend your meetings regularly!

\*\* Congratulations to the West Allis Radio Amateur Club members on their 50th anniversary celebration on September 26!

\*\* Did you know that, as an ARRL member or affiliated organization, you can have the ARRL logos on your material? ARRL members and affiliated clubs may use the ARRL diamond logo on their own personal QSL cards, stationery, club signs, business cards and web pages. ARRL Life Members may use the Life Member logo on their own personal QSL cards, stationery, business cards and web pages. Special Service Clubs may use the Special Service Club logo on their stationery, club signs and web pages. ARES members may use the ARES logo on their own personal QSL cards, stationery, business cards and web pages. Go to <http://www.arrl.org/logos/> for details!

\*\* From our STM, Denny, K9LGU: FAQ #33 How will the SET nets function? The Wisconsin ARES/RACES Net will meet on 3.996 MHz for tactical test messages, inter-county organizational messages, inquiries by ECs to other ECs, and more. The Badger Emergency Net will be established on 3.985 MHz. to pass test routine, test welfare, test priority, and test emergency messages within the state and out-of-state. On each net, the Net Control Station will be the boss. He or she will direct stations how to check in, how to list traffic, how to pass messages, and might even ask questions of those checked in concerning their status during the test. Message handling will be easier for those who do it regularly, but the SET can be a good time for training, too. The NCS may ask for a substitute or direct stations to go to a specific frequency farther up or down the band. Maybe they will be asked if they can establish a Packet link, instructed to try an emergency-powered repeater, told to shift to upper sideband -- or (Saints preserve us!) -- CW. Appointed liaisons from local ARES/RACES nets to the HF nets will help. The NTS supports the ARES.

\*\* Our deep appreciation to the Amateurs who went south to assist in disaster relief efforts from the recent hurricanes. 73,

Don, W9IXG [w9ixg@arrl.org](mailto:w9ixg@arrl.org) (608)274-1886  
ARRL Wisconsin Section, Section Manager:  
Donald E. Michalski, W9IXG [w9ixg@arrl.org](mailto:w9ixg@arrl.org)

### Ham Implementation of 802.11 Packet Radio

by Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

In our last features, we had a short introduction to 802.11 technology and we talked about how a wireless ethernet network is configured. We ended it by talking about the how the ham radio implementation will rely on horizontal antenna polarization, and mentioned that our the feature will involve antennas for this mode. As this is our next feature, that's exactly where we'll begin.

#### Antenna Requirements - and Difficulties

Antennas can be difficult in the HF, VHF and UHF world, and it gets even a little dicier at 2.4 GHz and above. Equipment to measure antenna performance at those frequencies is expensive - often beyond the means of a weekend experimenter. The antenna science at those frequencies can often be intimidating - very little things at those frequencies become more of a problem than the nuisance they might be at lower frequencies. Tolerances are in millimeters, not inches!

Add to that the fact that we are dealing in a digital, multi-end-user environment where everyone must hear everyone else to avoid interference, and we have another requirement - an omni-directional antenna pattern (for end users).

Don't forget that we want to use horizontal polarization. An omni horizontal antenna is something else entirely. Many designs have been tried in the past, some successfully. Others were disappointing.

A directional antenna is good for point-to-point links, such as backbone uses. These, oddly enough, may be easier to adapt for 802.11 use than the omni-directional designs we will be discussing. While most operators may opt for a commercially-built antenna, omni designs can be built, if you have access to the proper tools and equipment.

With that said, we'll look at the directional antennas first. Oddly enough, the antennas we'll be discussing are not recent designs. Some of them came about in the 1930s and 1940s. This is truly a mix of **new and old technologies**.

#### Dishing up a Signal

Once upon a time there was a satellite television service called Primestar. It was later bought up by another DBS (Direct Broadcast Satellite) network that is still around today, DirectTV. Many of the dishes used for this service were abandoned and are free for the asking. They are easily modifiable for this use, and perform well. Although they were intended for the 10GHz microwave/satellite band, they are usable at 5 and even 2.4 GHz (802.11b and 802.11g services). The procedure to modify them is just a little bit too involved for the scope of this column, but later on we'll list a few web resources for you to investigate.

Another abandoned television service is a good source of directional antennas. The so-called "wireless cable" services introduced about 10 years ago operated in the 2.5 GHz band, with somewhat larger, "mesh" or "open element" design. If you remember older fringe-area UHF TV parabolic antennas, these resemble them somewhat. They often have curved tubular reflector elements formed into a parabolic shape. They look like a dish made from old antenna elements. They usually have a Low-Noise Block down-converter/amplifier assembly that is mast-mounted. It is of no use to us (other than the die-cast case, which is great for projects).

Yagi-style beams are not the best selection for a directional antenna, for two reasons. One is that a dish has much higher gain. Another is the "capture area" of the antenna. A Yagi beam cannot provide the necessary gain to overcome its low capture area. Dishes work far better in this regard, they compensate for low capture area by collecting a signal on the parabolic reflector and focusing the signal on a feed-point.

The bottom line is that if you need a directional antenna for this use, a dish-type antenna is best.

#### Omni-directional Antennas

Omni-directional horizontally-polarized antennas are something of a problem. Many designs

have been tried over the years, with mixed results. Old-timers probably remember the "halo" antenna, popular with 2 and 6 meter mobile operators in the days of A.M. While they worked well enough for that type of purpose, they are simply not suitable for this application.

The same with a dipole. But put a series of them in a particular arrangement, and dipoles begin to become a lot more feasible for 802.11. Our first antenna, in its most basic form, uses two of them on the same plane set perpendicular to each other, centered. This is an antenna that was invented in 1936 by George Harold Brown, called the "turnstile" antenna. Of course, it resembles a turnstile that you'd see in a store or a theater. Electronics stores have sold a version for F.M. radio reception for many years. They are also popular as television transmission antennas, as they require an omni-directional horizontally-polarized radiation pattern. In most applications, the turnstile antenna requires a phasing harness and gamma matching network to properly feed the two dipoles.

By itself, a turnstile antenna has relatively low gain and a decent enough radiation pattern. However, just as you can "stack" beams, you can also stack turnstiles to make a "Super Turnstile" antenna. Naturally, the more of them you stack, the more gain you get. In addition, the radiation pattern is much tighter, which can be an issue at the upper and lower portions of the main lobes.

However, the antenna getting all the "press" these days is the "Slot" antenna. This antenna fits on the end of a "waveguide feed". No, it is not necessary to run a waveguide all the way from the wireless device to the antenna (though high-quality feedline is important for any type of antenna at these frequencies). It has a series of slots machined into a metal strip that encircles the waveguide feedpoint. Gain is very good - on the order of 18dbi for some designs, and the radiation pattern is excellent (right out to the horizon).

The down side is its complexity of construction. The individual slots must be machined to within 1 millimeter of specifications. This may not be the easiest thing to accomplish, but some may enjoy the challenge.

The last antenna for horizontal omni-directional operation to consider is the "wheel" antenna. It's very broad-banded, has good gain, but does suffer from some cross-polarization effects. Yes, it does look like a wheel, hence, its name. It, too features high gain and a good radiation pattern, and construction difficulty is on the order of the slot and turnstile antennas.

#### Conclusion

Try as one might, it is nearly impossible to comprehensively explore all antenna options fully in a short article. Hopefully, you have a rough idea of what works for 802.11b from this short discussion. However, there is much more to learn on this, and here are a few places to start.

To learn more about the Slot antenna and how to construct one, go to:

<http://www.TrevorMarshall.com>

Professor Marshall is quite learned in antenna art, and yet knows the practical side of things. His site can be considered one of the best sources of information concerning slot antennas.

To learn more about the Turnstile antenna, check this site out:

<http://www.barc.uklinux.net/tx.php?topic=turns>

For more about the Super Turnstile antenna, look here:

<http://www.wlan.org.uk/superturnstile.html>

And if you like wheels, here's a place to go (although it is a commercial site, it caters to hams):

<http://www.hamtv.com/wheel.html>

Be sure to check these sites frequently, things do change from time to time. And of course, you'll find a lot more by visiting Google and searching. Believe me, you will be overwhelmed by the results!

And that's where we'll leave our discussion for this time. Next time, we'll look at feedline options for 802.11 antennas. Until then, 73 from Andy.



# THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

**Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association**  
**Allen Schnepf, N0GMJ, Treasurer**  
**Ogema, WI 54459**

**Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor—453 Cottage Grove Avenue—Green Bay, WI 54304—e-mail: kb9aln@gbonline.com**

**WAPR News - December, 2004**  
by Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

On behalf of everyone who has a hand in WAPR, I'd like to take this opportunity to say Happy Holidays and Thanks to everyone who has kept packet radio alive and kicking in Wisconsin.

And alive it is! As regular readers may know, last September my busy schedule left me no room to get anything together for the Badger State Smoke Signals' October edition. A lot has happened since then, and it's good news, too.

I had tossed around the idea in the August issue of making this feature quarterly, as we had not much activity to report. That has changed this month, and I may think some more on this. So without further adieu, let's talk about the latest news.

**A Packet Resurgence?**

Earlier this year, you recall that I told you about Al, K9ALS (ex KB9BYQ) and his decision to shut down his BBS and gateway, WIGATE. After a few months' worth of rest, Al has surprised us all by getting back into packet with his old setup. Of course, his call-sign has changed, but the complete setup he used to have - including the important backbone node joining the east and west networks - is in place. Yes, his Internet E-Mail and message forwarding gateway is also there.

Al's re-entrance into packet seems to have stirred people up - in a good way, of course. Recently, we've seen users who missed Al's system return, and it's stirred many to consider going ahead with former plans or just re-entering the packet system in some way.

Case in point: Greg, KB9SZP. He at one time had plans to add a node into the system, and put it on hold due to a lack of meaningful connectivity. He's now considering moving ahead with a modified version of those plans.

As you may know, Greg is the owner/operator of the Ogdensburg (Waupaca) node stack. Currently, there is a backbone node and a LAN node that is (and has been for quite some time) in operation. While the LAN node sees little use, the backbone node has seen plenty. Greg has proposed keeping the backbone node in place, which will serve the network well, and converting the LAN node into an APRS digipeater. It will see more use as an APRS digi than a node. While we hate to see a LAN node go away, it's hard to argue with Greg's logic - if it sees no use, why keep it up there? And he has graciously agreed to keep the backbone node in place, and add another

where we are having network connectivity problems. What a guy!

That's not all happening in the state. Greg's brother Jeff (N9WBR) was also getting discouraged by the lack of activity and is encouraged by the new interest. Jeff operates a node near Steven's Point that also provides essential network connectivity.

And what of the east-central area of the state? Green Lake may well have a node stack again in the near future. Dave, KB9VLH has been doing testing for Green Lake to see how packet can be an asset to Green Lake County's ARES operation. His tests so far have been encouraging.

Recently, Aaron, KB9QWC sent me a note updating me on what he's been up to lately. Some of you may recall that Aaron has been past Vice-President of WAPR and quit to devote his time to school in Oshkosh. He, too has been encouraged by the upswing in activity and is digging his old equipment out of the closet and resurrecting his BBS. He did manage to connect up to my BBS in Green Bay, so he is "back on the air".

He's not the only one who likes the new packet activity. Bob, KA9JAC used to operate a BBS in Neenah. He is relocating to the Medina area and is considering reviving his BBS as well. No firm decision has been made as of this writing.

There have been other mentions of long-time packet operators returning to the air, and all I can say is "Welcome Back".

Why the sudden rekindling of interest? Perhaps a couple of reasons. First is the renewed emphasis on Emergency Communications within the Amateur Radio ranks. Some organizations are finding that packet can be a helpful addition to their communications system.

Along the same lines, the ARRL has designated Winlink 2000 as a standard E-Mail Traffic Handling system intended for relaying Emergency traffic in conjunction with the Internet, AMTOR and conventional Packet radio. There's a lot more to it than that, but suffice to say that packet can be a valuable extension to the Winlink 2000 system and many are realizing it. (On a side note, we'll have an article on Winlink 2000 in a future issue).

Another possible reason is that some of us who have been doing this for years got a little tired of the whole endeavor, and needed a break. They saw nodes and BBSs disappearing and figured there was no need to do it any more. After a pause and further reflection, they

reconsidered.

No matter the reason, let's embrace it and enjoy it. This is an opportunity to correct past mistakes and enhance our packet capability. Best of all, we get to try and remember how to use software that hasn't been started in months!

**Algoma Nodes Still Off-Air**

You might remember that the Algoma node stack was swamped and hit by a power surge last summer and knocked off the air. I have retrieved it and it is currently being repaired. It will be back in operation by the time you read this.

On a related subject, packet will again be in a supporting role for our December 7th Nuclear power plant drill involving Kewaunee and Manitowoc counties. If you see unusual packet traffic on that day, remember that it is all drill traffic.

**New "Packet Map" in the Works**

It's been quite a while since we had a working node map of the State of Wisconsin. The last one was done perhaps 4 years ago by Aaron, KB9QWC. A lot has changed, and a lot of people don't have the foggiest notion of what is out there these days.

This has led me to spearhead a unique effort. I am currently assembling a list of local-to-me nodes and BBSs and sending it off to people through the state via E-Mail. It's hoped that each recipient will add nodes that they know about to this list, and return it to me. I'll then edit, sort out any entries that may conflict, and then distribute the complete list. This is an "Open-Source" approach to assembling a packet list. While it may not be an exhaustive list, it will certainly give us the best results for the amount of effort involved.

You may have already received a notice through one of the mailing lists. If you are in a position to do so (meaning that you have sufficient knowledge of your local nodes and you have the time), please reply and send me information that we'll find helpful. Here's what we have been collecting:

- Location - Nearest City or Town
- Alias of the Node or BBS
- Call-Sign of the Node or BBS
- Node type, BBS type, or other info. (Such as weather BBS or Emergency Management/ARES BBS. Node versions can be obtained by issuing the "U" command).
- Frequency
- Baud Rate and if the node is a LAN, Backbone, DX or other type of node.

Any notes on special operation.

When the completed list is compiled and checked, I will distribute text versions via the packet network and E-Mail, and place a graphic version here (space permitting) and on the Internet.

Thanks for your help, your fellow packet operators will appreciate it.

**The Importance of "Packet Play"**

We've touched on one important aspect of packet radio - Emergency Communications. As rewarding and useful of an activity that can be, there is a bunch of other stuff that can be done with packet radio. Best of all, it's fun stuff.

Yes, we are allowed to and do encourage having fun with packet radio. Did you ever realize that "strictly fun" activities have value in the packet world?

Child-rearing experts tell us that children learn a great deal from play. So do we, both as individuals and a packet community. We learn things about communications, software, hardware, operating and of course, people. But we also learn more than that.

We learn how our network performs, where its weak and strong points are. If the only time we use a packet network is for emergency operating, we may never know if a portion of the system has failed, or is ready to fail. "Packet Playtime" puts the system through its paces and may show us shortcomings that could cause problems when we are called to operate during an emergency situation.

Here's one important note on emergency operating facilities, however. Some are dedicated to ARES and RACES work, and access is limited for that reason. As a general rule, avoid using the ARES nodes for 'playtime', unless you have an agreement to use them with the owners/operators of the nodes. These nodes generally appear on 145.61 MHz.

With that possible exception in mind, you're encouraged to play away! And if you do find a problem, contact the person who operates the node, BBS or other facility and let him or her know about the problem. Try and give as much detail about the situation as you can, to help the operator track the problem down. If you can't locate the owner of the packet facility, talk to your local BBS sysop or "packet guru". He or she may know how to contact the operator.

Aside from the practical value of play, I needn't remind you that it's just plain....fun!

That pretty well covers news for this time out. Until next time, 73 from Andy.





*Yellow Thunder  
Amateur Radio Club*

**WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)**  
**K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)**  
**Club net: Sundays 8:00 p.m. on 147.315**  
**Robert Loomis, KB9VSQ, Secretary**  
**108 Scarlet Ct., Reedsburg, WI 53959**  
**YTARC Home Page: <http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/>**



Minutes for the Monthly (October 2004)  
Meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

At 7:21 P.M. CDT on Tuesday the fifth the club meeting was called to order by the club President Steve Schulze, N9UDO. It was held in the usual location, the EOC meeting room in the Sauk County Courthouse in Baraboo Wisconsin.

The first order of business was the secretaries' report. One hard copy of the September minutes was presented to the membership present. A motion was made by Pete WD9JIB to accept the minutes as published via email and hard copy. Motion was seconded by Dave KB9CSW and accepted by voice vote of the members present.

Second order was the treasurers' report. In the absence of Billy the moneychanger, N9KXX, President Schulze stated the club account balance of xx.xx yen from the September minutes. To his knowledge there were no disbursements this last month.

Next on the agenda was old business of which the first item was a short discussion of the about the short September discussion about the August YTARC Swap Fest.

Second item under old business was about events using the 147.315 repeater. Pete, WD9JIB and Wayne, W9YYZ gave a short report on the Iowa County Quadrapedal event.

The third item dealt with was WB9EIW's request as to his membership status. I, the club, secretary presented to the club that in his letter he was a past president, a charter member, 78 years old and obviously been paying dues for years that the club might consider making him a life member in honor of what he has done for the club, A motion was made by Rick, N9ROY and seconded by Dave KB9CSW. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote of the members present.

In new business Steve, N9UDO brought to the membership's attention that a 68 foot Rohn 25 tower (six ten foot sections and a top) and a 7 amp 12v power supply was donated to the club. The tower is a few years old but has never been erected and has been stored indoors. A discussion was had on what to do with this generous gift. Steve mentioned he had a buyer for the tower. A motion was made by Tom, N9PQJ to sell this tower to the buyer for the

amount Steve had said he was offered. And if that fell through to offer the tower and the power supply for sale on the 6.88 swapnet and try to get the price offered. The motion was seconded by Pete, WD9JIB and passed by voice vote, 8 yea, and 1nay.

The second item of new business brought up by Steve was about a physically huge Uninterruptible Power Supply he has in his garage. It was supposed to go to the repeater sight but never made it there. Ensuing discussion was to dispose of it, be it by garbage, swapnet, sale, donation, battleship anchor, roadblock, etc.

Next item on the Agenda was annual elections for the YTARC board. Nominations were entertained from the floor. Rick, NROY made four motions, each one to reelect the four board members and all four of these motions were seconded by Pete WD9JIB. All four board members reelected unanimously by voice vote. And for the record the board is

President-Steven Schulze N9UDO, Vice President-Thomas Harrison, Treasurer-William Klinkner, Secretary-Robert Loomis.

Rick, N9ROY brought to the membership a request for a donation for to the Lake Delton Lions Club Safe Halloween Party. After a short discussion a motion was made by Dave, KB9CSW to make a donation in the same amount as last year, \$25.00. Pete WD9JIB seconded this motion. The voice vote of the membership was 7 yea, 1 nay and abstention.

At approximately 8:15 P.M. a motion was made by Tom, N9PQJ to adjourn was seconded by Pete WD9JIB and carried by voice vote unanimously.

Next months meeting will be Wednesday November third.

Respectfully submitted by Robert Loomis, KB9VSQ, YTARC Club Secretary

Members Present:

Rick Plouffe	N9ROY
Wayne Burgess	W9YYZ
Juanita Plouffe	
Bob Satterfield	N9IPP
Steve Schulze	N9UDO
Dave Spearing	KB9CSW
Thomas Harrison	N9PQJ
Peter Sweeney	WD9JIB
Brad Pointon	KB9VMC
Robert Loomis	KB9VSQ

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(Continued from page 4)

K9FHI	0	30	36	0	66
W9KKM	0	6	36	6	48
W9BHL	0	4	37	1	42
W9UW	0	28	9	2	39
KE9VU	0	21	13	0	34
KA9RZL	5	20	5	1	31
K9GU	0	0	30	0	30
AA9BB	0	0	25	0	25
W9RSX	0	3	18	0	21
WB9ICH	0	18	2	0	20
KG9B	0	0	19	0	19
KB9ROB	0	16	2	0	18
KN9P	0	7	4	3	14
K9UTQ	0	3	1	2	6
W9PVD	0	2	1	2	5

**P S H R SUMMARY  
September 2004**

CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
N9VE	40	40	30	275	0	0	385
K9JPS	33	40	10	110	0	0	193
AG9G	40	40	20	50	0	0	150
K9LGU	40	40	30	40	0	0	150
W9BHL	40	40	30	10	0	0	120
WA9ZTY	40	40	30	10	0	0	120
K9FHI	40	40	30	0	0	0	110
KB9KEG	40	40	20	0	0	10	110
W9CBE	40	40	20	0	0	0	100
W9RCW	40	30	30	0	0	0	100
W9RSX	40	14	10	0	0	0	64
KA9RZL	21	5	30	5	0	0	61

KA9RZL as of last month qualified for the 12 mo Public Service Award.

**P S H R SUMMARY  
OCTOBER 2004**

CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
N9VE	37	40	30	310	20	0	437
KB9KEG	40	40	20	150	0	10	260
K9JPS	38	40	10	100	0	0	188
WA9ZTY	40	40	30	40	25	0	175
AG9G	40	40	20	50	0	0	150
KA9RZL	40	31	30	35	0	0	136
K9LGU	40	40	30	5	5	0	120
W9BHL	40	40	30	10	0	0	120
W9RSX	40	21	10	15	0	0	86
K9FHI	40	40	30	0	0	10	80

"You see, wire telegraph is kind of a very, very long cat. You pull his tail in New York and his head is meowing in Los Angeles.

Do you understand this? And radio operates exactly the same way: you send signals here, they receive them there. The only difference is that there is no cat."

— Albert Einstein

More from the list server:  
Iraq my brain, but it's hard to top that Turkey.

Time Togo.  
Groooooannnn... This is hurting MY Bahrain!  
Kenya believe this...? I Ghana spit-up!!  
What DiffFRANCE does it make?  
Denmark me absent, because Italy a cold day in hell before I'll think of another such Punjab.  
Put on your Bahamas, it's time to go Tibet.  
Fora change of pace, someone should play a song by Bolivia Newton-John.  
To quote Henny Youngman: Take my wife....Belize.

**N. Hale Blakely, W9CBE, SK**

(Continued from page 1)

must be W9CBE.

One QSL card W9CBE sent to me is on a colorful postcard, showing an old man sitting in a lawn chair at the end of a pier fishing on a calm and sunny day. It says, "Greetings from McFarland, Wisconsin." With a ball point pen Hale carefully rewrote the photo caption, "I never saw a man who could fish operate ham radio and worry at the same time." W9CBE operated ham radio so much and so well he certainly did not have time to worry.

Hale was a knowledgeable stamp collector, specializing in French stamps. He would



trade stamps with me, his duplicate stamps from France for my extra commemorative U.S. stamps, exchanging envelopes full of stamps by mail with each other.

A memorial service was held at the Ryan Funeral Home, 2418 North Sherman Avenue, Madison, on October 18, 2004. The minister referred to Hale's Amateur Radio hobby as being the center piece of his life. Hale's relatives sincerely say, "Thanks to all his Ham Radio buddies. We'll miss you and love you forever."

W9CBE's license doesn't expire for over a year, plenty of time for Hale to design and test some new antennas up there. But I guess he won't need a license. Thanks for sharing your kindness and friendship with us over the years. Best Regards, Hale, W9CBE.

Buy it! • Sell it • Trade it • Fix it

# SWAPFESTS

<div><p>2004 WINNER Nicholas Luther, K9NL Oshkosh, WI.</p></div> <div><p>32nd ANNUAL MIDWINTER <b>SWAPFEST</b> WAUKESHA EXPOSITION CENTER WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN <b>SATURDAY</b> <b>JANUARY 8, 2005</b></p><p><i>Both sponsored by:</i> <b>THE WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB, INC.</b> <b>P. O. BOX 1072 • MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53201</b></p></div>	<p><i>HAM IT UP EVERY SPRING!</i> <b>MADISON SWAPFEST</b> Mandt Community Center <i>APRIL 17, 2005</i> 400 Mandt Parkway Stoughton WI Doors open at 8 a.m. Sponsored by MARA/W9HSY P. O. Box 8890 Madison, WI 53708-8890 swapfest Information Line. (608) 245-8890</p>	<p><b>SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB</b> <b>SWAPFEST 04</b> <b>JULY 9, 2005</b> (Held every July) <b>American Legion Park</b> <b>Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI</b> (414) 762-3235 Ask for Verne P.O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI 53172 e-mail ryatex@aol.com</p>		
<p><b>SEWFARS SWAPFEST</b> HAM RADIOS • COMPUTERS • ELECTRONICS AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS</p> <p><b>APRIL , 2005</b></p> <p>Setup starts at 6:00 A.M. For more information, call (262) 742-4903</p>	<p>The Chicago FM Club presents <b>RADIO EXPO 2005</b> September , 2005 Lake County Fairgrounds, Rts. 45 and 120 Grayslake, Illinois Free parking • Amateur Exams • Talkin 146.16/76 Info Voice mail and FAX: (708) 457-0966 <a href="http://www.chicagofmclub.org">http://www.chicagofmclub.org</a> P.O. Box 56784, Harwood Heights, IL 60656-0724</p>	<p><b>TRI-COUNTY ARC PRESENTS</b> <b>HAMFEST 2004</b> <b>March 20, 2005</b> <b>YOUR SPRING FAVORITE !</b> <a href="http://www.cmdline.com/tcarc/">www.cmdline.com/tcarc/</a> TCARC 213 Frederick St (920) 563-6381 Fort Atkinson, WI 53538 Evenings</p>		
<div><p>www.nsg9rc.org</p></div> <div><p><b>NSORC Fest</b> <i>formerly known as LAMARfest</i> Lake County Fairgrounds • Grayslake, Illinois Radio, Electronic, Computer Swapfest <b>APRIL 16, 2005</b> Grayslake, IL</p></div>	<p><b>MERRY CHRISTMASS</b> <b>AND</b> <b>A HAPPY NEW YEAR</b></p>	<p>The Milwaukee Repeater Club presents <b>AMATEUR RADIO FEST 2004</b> <b>November , 2005</b></p> <p>Waukesha County Expo Center Forum Buildings For more information, see: <a href="http://www.mrc91.org">http://www.mrc91.org</a> e-mail <a href="mailto:mrc@mrc91.org">mrc@mrc91.org</a> or call (414) 526-7011</p>		
<p><b>Ozaukee Radio Club</b> <b>23rd ANNUAL RADIO AND</b> <b>COMPUTER SWAPFEST</b> <b>MAY 7, 2005</b> 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Circle B Recreation Center Intersection of Highway 60 and County I Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno, 5119 W, Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222 Swapfest sponsored by the Ozaukee Radio Club W55 N865 Cedar Ridge Drive • Cedarburg WI 53012</p>	<p><b>Circus City Swapfest</b> Sponsored by the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club <b>Saturday, August 13, 2005 • 7 am—Noon</b> Sauk County Fairgrounds • Baraboo, WI</p> <table border="1"><tr><td>Vendors • Concessions Camping • Free Parking Tail Gate Area</td><td>\$4.00 — Advanced \$5.00 — At Gate \$5.00 — 8 foot tables</td></tr></table> <p>Steve Schulze, N9UDO • Bill Klinkner, N9KXX (606) 356-2313 • (608) 643-6908/643-6453 <a href="http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/hamfest.htm">http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/hamfest.htm</a>,</p>	Vendors • Concessions Camping • Free Parking Tail Gate Area	\$4.00 — Advanced \$5.00 — At Gate \$5.00 — 8 foot tables	<p><b>SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB</b> <b>AUCTION</b> <b>Amateur Radio, Computers &amp; Electronics</b> <b>Wed. MARCH 02, 2005, 6:00 p.m.</b> <b>American Legion Post 434</b> <b>Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI</b> (414) 762-3235 Ask for Verne P.O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI 53172 e-mail: ryatex@aol.com</p>
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